MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

PRESIDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS the direction of the Attorney General, to institute proceedings in equity to prevent and restrain such violations. It further

Support of the Gold Standard and Legislation to Control the Operation of Trusts - Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippine Islands Receive Attention.

tions of the government are con-

upon a gold basis. We receive gold when

for their payment. We are maintaining

the parity of all the money issued or coined by authority of the government.

We are doing these things with the means at hand. Happily at the present time we

are not compelled to resort to loans to supply gold. It has been done in the past,

however, and may have to be done in the future. It behooves us, therefore, to pro-

vide at once the best means to meet the

emergency when it arises, and the best

means are those which are the most cer-

tain and economical. Those now author-

ized have the virtue neither of directnes nor economy. We have already eliminated one of the causes of our financial plight

and embarrassment during the years 1893, 1894, 1895, and 1896. Our receipts now equal

our expenditures; deficient revenues no

longer create alarm. Let us remove the

only remaining cause by conferring the

full and necessary power on the Secre

tary of the Treasury and impose upor

him the duty to uphold the present gold

standard and preserve the coins of the

two metals on a parity with each other, which is the repeatedly declared policy of

In this connection I repeat my former

recommendations that a portion of the gold holdings shall be placed in a trus

fund from which greenbacks shall be re

redeemed shall not thereafter be paid out

The Merchant Marine.

The value of an American merchant ma

rine to the extension of our commercial trade and the strengthening of our power

upon the sea invites the immediate action

of the Congress. Our national develop

ment will be one-sided and unsatisfactory

long as the remarkable growth of our

The past year has recorded exceptional

activity in our shipyards, and the promise

nome and blind ourselves to the

of securing our share in the valuable car-

rying trade of the world.

Last year American vessels transported

a smaller share of our exports and im

our history, and the measure of our d

ports than during any former year in all

pendence upon foreign shipping was pain

fully manifested to our people. Withou any choice of our own, but from necessity

the departments of the government

charged with military and naval opera

tions in the East and West Indies had to

obtain from foreign flags merchant ves

The other great nations have not hesi

tated to adopt the required means to de

velop their shipping as a factor in nationa

defense and as one of the surest and

ucers a share in foreign markets. Like

vigilance and effort on our part canno

fail to improve our situation, which is re

garded with humiliation at home and with surprise abroad. Even the seeming sacri-

ces, which at the beginning may be ir

The expense is as nothing compared to

establishment of our merchant marine in-

volves in a large measure our continue

industrial progress and the extension of our commercial triumphs. I am satisfied

the judgment of the country favors the policy of aid to our merchant marine,

which will broaden our commerce and

markets and upbuild our sea-carrying ca-

pacity for the products of agriculture and

our navy, mean more work and wages t

our countrymen, as well as a safeguard to

Subject of Trusts.

Combinations of capital organized into

trusts to control the conditions of trade

limit production, and determine the prices

of products used and consumed by the peo ple, are justly provoking public discussion

and should early claim the attention of the

The Industrial Commission, created by

he act of the Congress of June 18, 1898, has

been engaged in extended hearings upon the disputed questions involved in the sub-

The subject is one giving rise to many

ombinations concentrating more or less

numerous enterprises and establishments

which previously to the formation of the combination were carried on separately.

It is universally conceded that combina-tions which engross or control the market

nary competition, whereby prices are un

duly enhanced to the general consumer

are obnoxious not only to the common law

such organizations. If the present law

can be extended more certainly to contro

or check these monopolies or trusts,

should be done without delay. Whatever

most important subject should be promptly

"Earnest attention should be given by Congress

a consideration of the question how far the restrain

organized, as they often are, to crush out as! health

competition and to monopolize the production or sale of an article of commerce and general necessity they are dangerous conspiracles against the public

good, and should be made the subject of prohibitor

An act to protect trade and commerce

ies was passed by Congress on the 2d of

and even penal legislation."

but also to the public welfare. must be a remedy for the evils involved in

among our citizens, to stifle competi

advantage to be achieved. The re

quivalent gains.

speediest means of obtaining for their pro

els essential for those operations.

deemed upon presentation, but when

the United States

except for gold.

To the Senate and House of Representatives: | nizes as the best. The financial transa e threshold of your deliberations called to mourn with your couneath of Vice President Hoof November 21 last. His great eternal peace. His life was pure and elevated, while was ever distinguished stainless integrity, and alted motives. He has been removed m the high office which he honored and ty character, his dehonesty of purpose, remain with us as a as legacy and example.

th Congress convenes in its st regular session with the country in ual prosperity, of unirsal good will among the people at and in relations of peace and hip with every government of the Our foreign commerce has shown olume and value. The imports and exports for the are the largest ever shown by a sinyear in all our history. Our exports one exceeded by more than a on dollars our imports and exports ned in 1870. The imports per capita per cent. less than in 1870, while the exports per capita are 58 per cent, more showing the enlarged capacity of the United States to satisfy the wants of its own increasing population, as well as to contribute to those of the des of other nations

of agricultural products were \$384,776,142. Of manufactured products we exported in value \$339,592,146, being larger an any previous year. It is a noteorthy fact that the only years in all our story when the products of our manusold abroad exceeded those oad were 1898 and 1899.

Finances of the Country.

vernment receipts from all sources for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1800, ininland industries remains unaccomp \$11,798,314.14, part payment of the by progress on the seas. There is no lack Central Pacific Railroad indebtedness, agof constitutional authority for legislation which shall give to the country maritime strength commensurate with its industrial gated \$610,982,004.35. Customs were \$206,128,481.75, and those from internal achievements and with its rank among the nations of the earth. enue \$273,437,161.51. fiscal year the expenditures were \$700,093,564.02, leaving a deficit of

The Secretary of the Treasury estimates of continual prosperity in shipbuilding are at the receipts for the current fiscal abundant. Advanced legislation for the that the receipts for the current fiscal abundant. Advanced legislation for the year will aggregate \$640,958,112, and upon protection of our seamen has been enacted

he basis of present appropriations the ex-conditures will aggregate \$606,96,112, leav-framed at the beginning of the govern ag a surplus of \$40,000,000.

For the fiscal year ended June 30 1899, the fiscal year unequaled in our records or those of any other power. We shall fail creased about \$100,000,000. to realize our opportunities, however, if

The present gratifying strength of the we complacently regard only matters at ury is shown by the fact that or December 1, 1899, the available cash balance was \$278,004,837.72, of which \$239, 74,905.36 was in gold coin and bullion The onditions of confidence which prevail throughout the country have brought gold ceipts are now almost entirely paid in

with respect to cash on hand and the fahave made it possible for the Secretary provisions of section 3694, Revised Statutes, relating to the sinking fund. Receipts exceeded expenditures for the first five months of the current fiscal year by \$13,413,389.91, and, as mentioned above, the Secretary of the Treasury estimates that \$40,000,000 at the end of the year. Unde and proper to resume compliance with the provisions of the sinking-fund law, which for eight years has not been done be cause of deficiencies in the revenues. The Treasury Department therefore offered to se during November \$25,500,000 of the 5 per cent. loan of 1904, or the 4 per cent. funded loan of 1907, at the current market price. The amount offered and purchased during November was \$18,408,-600. The premium paid by the govern-ment on such purchases was \$2,263,521 and net saving in interest was about \$2,885,000. The success of this operation was sufficient to induce the government to continue the offer to purchase bonds to and including the 23d day of December, instant, unless the remainder of the \$25,the meantime for redemption.

Industrial Activity.

Increased activity in industry, with its me attendant-a larger employment or labor at higher wages-gives to the body of the people a larger power to absorb the circulating medium. It is further true that year by year, with larger areas of land under cultivation, the ineasing volume of agricultural products, cotton, corn, and wheat, calls for a larger volume of money supply. This is espeally noticeable at the crop-harvesting

In its earlier history the national bankact seemed to prove a reasonable avethrough which needful additions to ject of combinations in restraint of trade e circulation could from time to time and competition. They have not yet comthe circulation could from time to time made. Changing conditions have appleted their investigation of this subject and the conclusions and recommendation arently rendered it now inoperative to end. The high margin in bond seat which they may arrive are undeter curities required, resulting from large mined. remiums which government bonds comd in the market, or the tax on note s, or both operating together, appear e the influences which impair its pubes, or both operating together, appear

ly invited to this important matter de in the national banking act as will er its service in the particulars here of any particular kind of merchandise of commodity necessary to the general comferred to more responsive to the peo-e's needs. I again urge that national munity, by suppressing natural and ordi nks be authorized to organize with a Capital of \$25,000.

Supporting the Geld Standard

urgently, recommend that to support existing gold standard, and to maintwo metals (gold and silver) and the tal power of every dollar at all times the market and in the payment of the Secretary of the Treasury be duty to sell United States bonds and employ such other effective means as y be necessary to these ends. The aumploy such other effective means as be necessary to these ends. The aurity should include the power to sell ons may require, and should provide or a rate of interest lower than that fixed by the act of January 14, 1875. While there is now no commercial fright which that gold seeks the Treasury, deas the most fitting time to make adequate gold standard and of public confidence in the ability and purpose of the govern-ment to meet all its obligations in the are comprehensive and stringent. It demoney which the civilized world recog- clares every contract or combination, in

the form of a trust or otherwise, or conspiracy in restraint of trade or commerce among the several States or with foreign nations, to be unlawful. It denominates as a criminal every person who makes any such contract or engages in any such combination or conspiracy, and provides a punishment by fine or imprisonment. It invests the several circuit courts of the United States with jurisdiction to prevent and restrain violations of the act, and makes it the duty of the several United States district attorneys, under confers upon any person who shall be injured in his business or property by any other person or corporation by reason of anything forbidden or declared to be unlawful by the act the power to sue there-for in any circuit court of the United States without respect to the amount in controversy, and to recover three-fold the damages by him sustained and the cost of the suit, including reasonable attorney fees. It will be perceived that the act is almed at every kind of combination in the nature of a trust or monopoly in restraint of interstate or international

The prosecution by the United States of ffenses under the act of 1890 has been frequently resorted to in the Federai ourts, and notable efforts in the restraint of interstate commerce, such as the Transsouri Freight Association and Joint Traffic Association, have been sucsed and suppressed.

President Cleveland in his annual message of December 7, 1896-more than six years subsequent to the enactment of this law-after stating the evils of these we sell United States bonds and use gold trust combinations, says:

"Though Congress has attempted to deal with this matter by legislation, the laws passed for that pur-pose thus far have proved ineffective, not because of any lack of disposition or attempt to enforce them, but simply because the laws themseives as inter-preted by the courts do not reach the difficulty. If the insufficiencies of existing laws can be remedied by further legislation, it should be done. The fact must be recognized, however, that all Federal legis-lation on this subject may fall short of its purpose

murder, and following the established be held accountable for injuries suffered individuals at the hands of the public authorities while acting in the line duty in suppressing disturbance of the public peace, this government, after due consideration of the claim advanced by the Austro-Hungarian government, was constrained to decline ilability to indemni-fy the sufferers.

Belgian Cattle Restrictions.

It is gratifying to be able to announce that the Belgian government has mitiof cattle from the United States, to which I referred in my last annual message. Having been invited by Belgium to paripate in a congress, held at Brussels, to revise the provisions of the general act of July 2, 1890, for the repression of the African slave trade, to which the United States was a signatory party, this govern-ment preferred not to be represented by a plenipotentiary, but reserved the right of accession to the result. Notable changes were made, those especially this country being in the line of the increased restriction of the deleterious trade spirituous liquors with the native tribes, which this government has from outset urgently advocated. amended general act will be laid before the Senate, with a view to its advice and

Early in the year the peace of Bolivia was disturbed by a successful insurrection. The United States Minister remained at his post, attending to the American interests in that quarter, and using besides his good offices for the protection interests of British subjects in the absence tions therewith. Gen. Pando was elected president of Bolivia on October 23.

to induce the government of Bolivia to completed its labors and made its report, amend its marriage laws so as to give legal status to the non-Catholic and civil new commission, known as the Isthmian new commission, known as the Isthmian

doctrine that the government may not Central America for which our existing statutes pt de. A Nicaraguan envoy has been accredited to the United States.

An insurrectionary movement, under Gen. Reyes, broke out at Blufields in February last, and for a time exercised actu-al control in the Mosquito territory. The Detroit was promptly sent thither for the protection of American interests. After a few weeks the Reyes government re-nounced the condict, giving place to the restored supremacy of Nicaragua. During the interregnum certain public under Nicaraguan law were collected from American merchants by the authorities for the time being in effective administrative control. Upon the titular government regaining power a second payment of these dues was demanded. Controversy arose touching the validity of the original payment of the debt to the de facto regent of the territory. An arrangement was effected in April last by the United States Minister and the foreign secretary of Nicaragua whereby the amounts of the duplicate payments were deposited with the British consul pending deposited with the British consul pending an adjustment of the matter by direct agreement between the governments of the United States and Nicaragua. The controversy is still unsettled.

Nicaragua Canal Project. The contract of the Maritime Canal pany, of Nicaragua, was declared forfeited by the Nicaraguan government on the 10th of October, on the ground of non fulfillment within the ten years' term stipulated in the contract. The Maritime Canal Company has lodged a protest against this action, alleging rights in the premises which appear worthy of considof their national representative. On the eration. This government expects that establishment of the new government our Nicaragua will afford the protestants a Minister was directed to enter into rela- full and fair hearing upon the merits of the case.

The Nicaragua Canal Commission, which had been engaged upon the work Our representative has been instructed of examination and survey for a ship-to use all permissible friendly endeavors canal route across Nicaragua, having lation on this subject may fall short of its purpose because of inherent obstacles, and also because of inherent obstacles, and also because of marriages of allens within its jurisdiction, and strong hopes are entertained that the which, while making the Federal authority supreme Bolivian law in this regard will be 1899, for the purpose of examining the

In my message to Congress of December 5, 1898, I urged that the recommendation which had been made to the Speaker of the House of Representatives by the Secretary of the Treasury on the 14th of wrecking and salvage. June, 1898, for an appropriation for a commission to study the commercial and industrial conditions in the Chinese empire and report as to the opportunities for, and obstacles to, the enlargement of markets in China for the raw products and manufactures of the United States, should receive at your hands the consideration which its importance and timeliness which its merited, but the Congress failed to take

I now renew this recommendation, as the importance of the subject has steadily grown since it was first submitted to you, and no time should be lost in studying for ourselves the resources of this great field for American trade and enterpr

World's Exposition at Paris.

The death of President Faure in February last called forth those sincere expressions of sympathy which befit the rela-tions of two republics as closely allied by inbroken historic ties as are the United States and France.

Preparations for the representation of the industries, arts, and products of the United States at the World's Exposition, to be held in Paris next year, continue on an elaborate and comprehensive scale, thanks to the generous appropriation provided by Congress and to the friendly in-terest the French government has shown in furthering a typical exhibit of American progress. There has been allotted to the United States a considerable addition of space, which, while placing our country in the first rank among exhibitors, does not suffice to meet the increasingly urgent lemands of our manufacturers. The ef-orts of the commissioner general are ably lirected toward a scrictly representative lisplay of all that most characteristically marks American echievement in the inventive arts, and most adequately shows he excellence of our natural productions.

In this age of keen rivalry among nations for mastery in commerce, the doc-trine of evolution and the rule of the survival of the fittest must be as inexorable in their operation as they are positive in the results they bring about. The place won in the struggle by an industrial peo-ple can only be held by unrelaxed en-deavor and constant advance in achieve-The present extraordinary impetus in every line of American exporta-tion and the astounding increase in the volume and value of our share in the world's markets may not be attributed to accidental conditions

The reasons are not far to seek. They lie deep in our national character and find expression year by year in every branch of handicraft, in every new device where-by the materials we so abundantly produce are subdued to the artisan's will and made to yield the largest, most practical, and most beneficial return. The American exhibit at Paris should, and I am confident will, be an open volume, whose lesons of skillfully directed endeavor, unfaltering energy, and consummate per-formance may be read by all on every page, thus spreading abroad a clearer knowledge of the worth of our productions and the justice of our claim to an important place in the marts of the world. To accomplish this by judicious selection, by recognition of paramount merit in whatever walk of trade or manufacture it may appear, and by orderly classification and attractive installation is the task of our

The United States government building is approaching completion, and no effort will be spared to make it worthy, in beauty of architectural plan and in completeness of display, to represent our nation. It has been suggested that a perma-nent building of similar or appropriate design be erected on a convenient site, al. ready given by the municipality, near the exposition grounds, to serve in commemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American national institute, for our countrymen reorting to Paris for study.

I am informed by our commissioner general that we shall have in the American sections at Paris over 7,000 exhibitors, from every State in our country, a number ten times as great as those which were represented at Vienna in 1873, six es as many as those in Paris in 1878, and four times as many as those who exhibited in Paris in 1889. This statement does not include the exhibits from either Cuba, Porto Rico, or Hawaii, for which

arrangements have been made. A number of important international congresses on special topics affecting public interests are proposed to be held in Paris next summer in connection with the exposition. Effort will be made to have administration efficiently represented at those conferences, each in its special line, and to procure the largest possible concourse of State representatives, particuarly at the congresses of public charity and of medicine.

Cordial Relations with Germany.

Our relations with Germany continue to be most cordial. The increasing intimacy of direct association has been marked during the year by the granting permission in April for the landing on our shores of a cable from Borkum Emden, on the North Sea, by way of the Azores, and also by the conclusion on September the 2 of a Parcels Post Convention with the German Empire. In all that promises closer relations of intercourse and commerce and a better understanding between two races having so many traits in common, Germany can be assured of the most cordial co-operation of this government We may be rivals in many material paths, but our rivalry should be generous and open, ever aiming toward the attainment of larger results and the mutually beneficial advancement of each in the line of its especial adaptabilities. The several governments of the empire seem reluctant to admit the natural excellence of our food productions and to accept the evidence we constantly tender of the care with which their purity is guarded by rigid inspection from the farm, through the slaughter-house and the packing establishments, to the port of ship-Our system of control over exported food staples invites examination from any quarter and challenges respect

by its efficient thoroughness. It is to be hoped that in time the two governments will act in common accord toward the realization of their common purpose to safeguard the public health and to insure the purity and wholesomeness of all food products imported by either country from the other. Were the Congress to authorize an invitation to Germany, in connection with the pending reciprocity negotiations, for the constitution of a joint commission of scientific ex-perts and practical men of affairs to conduct a searching investigation of food production and exportation in both countries and report to their respective legislatures for the adoption of such remedial meas-ures as they might recommend for either, the way might be opened for the desirable result indicated.

Efforts to obtain for American life insurance companies a full hearing as to their business operations in Prussia have, after several years of patient representa tion, happily succeeded, and one of the important American companies has been granted a concession to continue business in that kingdom.

I am also glad to announce that the German insurance companies have been readmitted by the superintendent of insurance to do business in the State of

Subsequent to the exchange of our peace Subsequent to the exchange of our peace treaty with Spain, Germany acquired the Caroline Islands by purchase, paying therefor \$5,000,000. Assurances have been received from the German government that the rights of American missionaries and traders there will be considerately ob-

In my last annual message I referred to the pending negotiations with Great Britain in respect to the Dominion of Canada. By means of an executive agree-ment a Joint High Commission had been created for the purpose of adjusting all ation, custems revenues, judicial adminunsettled questions between the United istration, coasting trade, and all

national foreign settlement at Shanghai and the opening of the ports of Nanking, Tsing-tao (Kiao chao), and Ta-lien-wan to foreign trade and settlement will doubtless afford American enterprise additional facilities and new fields, of which it will not be slow to take advantage.

In my message to Congress of December 1 December 1 December 1 December 2 December the agreement respecting naval vessels in the Great Lakes, a more complete mark-ing of parts of the boundary, provision for the conveyance of criminals, and for

> Much progress had been made by the commission toward the adjustment of many of these questions, when it became apparent that an irreconcilable difference of views was entertained respecting the delimitation of the Alaskan boundary. In the failure of an agreement as to the meaning of articles 3 and 4 of the treaty of 1825 between Russia and Great Britain, which defined the boundary between Alaska and Canada, the American Com-missioners proposed that the subject of the boundary be laid aside and that the remaining questions of difference be proceeded with, some of which were so far advanced as to assure the probability of a settlement. This being declined by the British commissioners, an adjour was taken until the boundary should be adjusted by the two governments. The subject has been receiving the careful attention which its importance demands, with the result that a modus vivendi for provisional demarcations in the region about the head of Lynn Canal has been agreed upon; and it is hoped that the negotiations now in progress between the two governments will end in an agreement for the establishment and delimitation of a permanent boundary.

Apart from these questions growing out of our relationship with our northern neighbor, the most friendly disposition and ready agreement have marked the discussion of numerous matters arising in the vast and intimate intercourse of the United States with Great Britain.

This government has maintained an at-titude of neutrality in the unfortunate contest between Great Britain and the Boer states of Africa. We have remained faithful to the precept of avoiding entangling alliances as to affairs not of our direct concern. Had circumstances suggested that the parties to the quarrel would have welcomed any kindly expres-sion of the hope of the American people that war might be averted, good offices would have been gladly tendered. United States representative at Pretoria was early instructed to see that all neutral American interests be respected by the combatants. This has been an easy task, in view of the positive declarations of both British and Boer authorities that the personal and property rights of our citizens should be observed.

Upon the withdrawal of the British agent from Pretoria the United States consul was authorized, upon the request of the British government and with the assent of the South African and Orange Free State governments, to exercise the customary good offices of a neutral for the care of British interests. In the discharge of this function I am happy to say that abundant opportunity has been afforded to show the impartiality of this government toward both the combatants.

Lynching of Italians. For the fourth time in the present decade question has arisen with the govern-ment of Italy in regard to the lynching of Italian subjects. The latest of these de-plorable events occurred at Tallulah, La., whereby five unfortunates of Italian origin were taken from jail and hanged.

The authorities of the State and a representative of the Italian Embassy having separately investigated the occurrence, with discrepant results, particularly as to the alleged citizenship of the victims, and it not appearing that the State had been able to discover and punish the violators of the law, an independent investigation has been set on foot, through the agency of the Department of State, and is still in progress. The result will enable the Executive to treat the question with the government of Italy in a spirit of fairness and justice. A satisfactory solution will doubtless be reached.

The recurrence of these distressing manifestations of blind mob fury directed at dependents or natives of a foreign country suggests that the contingency has arisen for action by Congress in the direction of conferring upon the Federal courts cases where the ultimate responsibility of the Federal government may be involved. The suggestion is not new. In his annual message of December 9, 1891, my predecessor, President Harrison, said:

"It would, I believe, be entirely competent for Congress to make offenses against the treaty rights of foreigners demiciled in the United States cognise ble in the Federal courts. This has not, however, been done, and the Federal officers and courts have no power in such cases to intervene either for the protection of a foreign citizen or for the punish-ment of his slayers. It seems to me to follow, in this state of the law, that the officers of the State charged with police and judicial powers in such cases must, in the consideration of international questions growing out of such incidents, be regarded in such sense as Federal agents as to make this government answerable for their acts in cases wher it would be answerable if the United States had used its constitutional power to define and punish crimes against treaty rights."

A bill to provide for the punishment of violations of treaty rights of allens was introduced in the Senate March 1, 1892, and reported favorably March 30. Having doubtless in view the language of that part of Article III of the treaty of February 26, 1871, between the United States and Italy, which stipulates that "the citizens of each of the high contracting parties shall receive, in the States and Territories of the other, most constant protection and security for their persons and property, and shall enjoy in this respect the same rights and privileges as are or shall be granted to the natives, on their submitting themselves to the conditions imposed upon the natives," the bill so introduced and reported provided that any act committed in any State or Territory of the United States in violation of the rights of a citizen or subject of a foreign country secured to such citize subject by treaty between the United States and such foreign country and con-stituting a crime under the laws of the State or Territory shall constitute a like crime against the United States and be cognizable in the Federal courts. No action was taken by Congress in the mat-I earnestly recommend that the subject

the present session. The necessity for some such provision abundantly appears. Pracedent for constituting a Federal jurisdiction in criminal cases where aliens are sufferers is rationally deducible from the existing statute, which gives to the district and circuit courts of the United States jurisdiction of civil suits brought by allens where the amount involved ex-ceeds a certain sum. If such jealous solicitude be shown for alien rights in cases of merely civil and pecuniary import, how much greater should be the public duty to take cognizance of matters affecting the tled principles of international law no less than under treaty stipulation, in cases of such transcendent wrong-doing as mob murder, especially when experi-ence has shown that local justice is 100 often helpless to punish the offenders.

After many years of endeavor on the

part of this government to that end, the Italian government has consented to enter into negotiations for a naturalization ter into negotiations for a naturalization convention, having for one of its objects the regulation of the status of Italians (except those of an age for active military service) who, having been naturalized in the United States, may revisit Italy. It is hoped that with the mutually conciliatory spirit displayed a successful conclusion will be reached.

Treaty with Japan. The treaty of commerce and navigation

between the United States and Japan on November 22, 1894, took effect in accordance with the terms of its XIXth Article on the 17th of July last, simultaneo with the enforcement of like treaties with the other powers, except France, whose convention did not go into operation until August 4, the United States being, however, granted up to that date all the priv-Leges and rights accorded to French citi-zens under the old French treaty. By this notable conventional reform Japan's posi-tion as a fully independent sovereign pow-



volved, will be offset later by more than within its sphere, has carefully limited this sphere metes and bounds which cannot be transgressed. The decision of our highest court on this precise question renders it quite doubtful whether the evils of trusts and monopolies can be adequately treated hrough Federal action, unless they seek directly and ourposely to include ir their objects transportation or intercourse between States or between the United tates and foreign countries.

"It does not follow, however, that this is the limit of the remedy that may be applied. Even though it may be found that Federal authority is not broad igh to fully reach the case, there can be no doubt of the power of the several States to act ef-fectively in the premises, and there should be no reason to doubt their willingness to judiciously exermanufacture, which, with the increase of se such power." American interests in every part of the

The State legislation to which Presient Cleveland looked for relief from the vils of trusts has failed to accomplish fully that object. This is probably due to a great extent to the fact that different States take different views as to the proper way to discriminate between evil and injurious combinations and those associations which are beneficial and necsary to the business prosperity of the ountry. The great diversity of treatment n different States arising from this cause and the intimate relations of all parts of the country to each other without regarding State lines in the conduct of busi-

aws difficult. It is apparent that uniformity of legislaion upon this subject in the several s is much to be desired. It is to be hoped that such uniformity founded in a and just discrimination between what is injurious and what is useful and necessary in business operations may be obtained and that means may be found for the Congress within the limitations of its constitutional power so to supple-ment an effective code of State legislation as to make a complete system of laws hroughout the United States adequate ompel a general observance of the salu-

ness have made the enforcement of State

ary rules to which I have referred. The whole question is so important and ar-reaching that I am sure no part of it will be lightly considered, but every phase of it will have the studied deliberation of the Congress, resulting in wise and judi-

A review of our relations with forein tates is presented with such recommenations as are deemed appropriate The long-pending boundary dispute between the Argentine Republic and Chile was settled in March last by the award of an arbitral commission, on which the United States Mirister at Buenos Ayres erved as umpire.

Progress has been made toward the con lusion of a convention of extradition with the Argentine Republic. Having be vised and consented to by the United States Senate and ratified by Argentina, it only awaits the adjustment of some slight changes in the text before exchange.

In my last annual message I adverted to the claim of the Austro-Hungarian government for indemnity for the killing of abandoned the joint compact, each re-

certain Austrian and Hungarian subjects by the authorities of the State of Pennsyl-

brought, as was that of Peru some years ago, into harmony with the general practice of modern States.

Brazil, Colombia, Denmark. A convention of extradition with Brazil, signed May 14, 1897, has been ratified by

the Brazilian legislature. During the past summer two national ships of the United States have visited Brazilian ports on a friendly mission and been cordially received. The voyage the Wilmington up the Amazon River gave rise to a passing misunderstanding owing to confusion in obtaining permission to visit the interior and make surtion, but the incident found a ready adjustment in harmony with the close relaalways sedulously scught to cultivate with he commonwealths of the western con-

The claim growing out of the seizure of the American-owned newspaper, the Pan-ama Star and Herald, by the authorities views of the necessity of a canal which of Colombia has been settled, after a controversy of several years, by an agree-ment assessing at \$30,000 the indemnity to reasons then presented for early action be paid by the Colombian government, in are even stronger now.

three installments of \$10,000 each. The good will of Colombia toward our country has been testified anew by the ordial extension of facilities to the Nicraguan Canal Commission in their approaching investigation of the Panama anal and other projected routes across

the Isthmus of Darien. Toward the end of October an insurrec-tionary disturbance developed in the Colombian republic. This movement has thus far not attained any decisive result and is still in progress.

Discussion of the questions raised by the action of Denmark in imposing restric-tions on the importation of American meats has continued without substantial result in our favor.

The neighboring island republic of Santo Domingo has lately been the scene of revolution, following a long period of tranquillity. It began with the killing of President Heureaux in July last, and culminated in the relinquishment by the suc-ceeding vice president of the reins of government to the insurgents. The first act of the provisional government was the calling of a presidential and constituent election, Juan Isidro Jimenez, having been elected President, was inaugurated on the 14th of November. Relations have een entered into with the newly established government

Greater Republic of Central America. The experimental association of Nicaragua, Honduras, and Salvader, unde title of the Greater Republic of Central America, when apparently on the thresh old of a complete federal organization by the adoption of a constitution and the formation of a national legislature, was abandoned the joint compact, each re-suming its former independent sovereignty. This was followed by the reception vania, at Lattiner, while suppressing an unlawful tumuit of miners, September 10.

Nicaragua and Salvador, while Minister have been everywhere maintained during rendered by the court before which the to the government of Honduras, thus refuture. sheriff and his deputies were tried for verting to the old distribution of the dip-

American isthmus with a view to determ ining the most practicable and feasible route for a ship canal across that isthmus with its probable cost, and other essentia

This commission, under the presidency of Rear Admiral John G. Walker, U. S. N. (retired), entered promptly upon the work intrusted to it, and is now carrying on examinations in Nicaragua along the route of the Panama Canal, and in Darien from the Atlantic, in the neighborhood of the Atrato River, to the Bay of Panama, on the Pacific side. Good progress has een made, but under the law a comprehensive and complete investigation is called for, which will require much labor and considerable time for its accomplishment. The work will be prosecuted as ions of amity which this government has expeditiously as possible and a report made at the earliest practicable date.

The great importance of this work can

not be too often or too strongly pressed upon the attention of Congress. In my would link the two great oceans, to which The

Evidence of Chile's Good Will.

A pleasing incident in the relations of this government with that of Chile occurred in the generous assistance given to the warship Newark when in distress in Chilean waters. Not alone in this way has the friendly disposition of Chile found expression. That country has acceded to the convention for the establishment of the Bureau of the American Republics, in which organization every independent state of the continent now shares.

The exchange of ratifications of a convention for the revival of the United vention for the revival of the United States and Chilean Claims Commission and for the adjudication of claims here-tofore presented, but not determined during the life of the previous commission, has been delayed by reason of the necessity for fresh action by the Chilean Senate upon the amendments attached to the ratification of the treaty by the United States Senate. This formality is soon to be accomplished.

Trade Interests in China.

In view of disturbances in the populous provinces of Northern China, where are many of our citizens, and of the iraminence of disorder near the capital and toward the seaboard, a guard of marines was landed from the Boston and stationed during last winter in the legation pound at Peking. With the restoration of order this protection was withdrawn The interests of our citizens in that vast

empire have not been neglected during the past year. Adequate protection has been secured for our missionaries and some injuries to their property have been American capital has sought and found

various opportunities of competing to car-ry out the internal improvements which couraging, and to develop the natural re-sources of the empire. Our trade with China has continued to grow, and our